

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A recording apparatus comprising:

removing means for removing a recording medium from the medium fixing member, said recording medium being fixed to a medium fixing member such that an active surface of the recording medium is facing to the medium fixing member,

wherein the removing means has,

a removing claw, the removing claw having an upper face that is operative to contact the recording medium;

side faces, the side faces respectively having a rectangular cross section with a height which is reduced toward a tip such that portions joining the upper face and the side faces respectively are rounded and extend along the length of the side faces; and

, and a distal end portion comprising both ends of an upper side of the rectangle, which are rounded and have a non-curvilinear portion provided in-between between the rounded portions.

2. (*Currently Amended*) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the rounded ~~portion has~~ portions have a radius of curvature of $r = 1$ ~~{mm}~~ (mm) or more and ~~[[an]]~~ the upper face of the tip has a face pressure of 1 ~~{KPa}~~ (KPa) or less received from the recording medium being removed.

3. (*Previously Presented*) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium comprises a toner and an image receiving sheet, the toner sheet is of a thin film transfer type.

4. (*Currently Amended*) A removing claw for removing a toner sheet or an image receiving sheet from a medium fixing member, ~~wherein~~ the removing claw comprising:

an upper face that is operative to contact the recording medium;

side faces, the side faces respectively having a cross section has a rectangle with a height that is reduced toward a tip such that portions joining the upper face and the side faces respectively are rounded and extend along the length of the side faces; and

, and a distal end portion comprising both ends of an upper side of the rectangle, which are rounded and have a non-curvilinear portion provided in-between between the rounded portions.

5. (*Currently Amended*) The removing claw according to claim 4, wherein the rounded ~~portion has~~ portions have a radius of curvature of $r = 1$ ~~{mm}~~ (mm) or more and ~~[[an]]~~ the upper face of the tip has a face pressure of 1 ~~{KPa}~~ (KPa) or less received from the recording medium being removed.

6. (*Original*) The removing claw according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the toner sheet is of a thin film transfer type.

7. (*Currently Amended*) A recording method utilizing a recording apparatus having a removing claw comprising:

fixing the image receiving sheet onto the medium fixing member, said image receiving sheet having an image receiving layer to receive an image of a recorded image;

fixing the toner sheet onto the image receiving sheet; and

removing the toner sheet or the image receiving sheet from the medium fixing member using a removing claw, the removing claw having,

an upper face that is operative to contact the recording medium;

side faces, the side faces respectively having a rectangular cross section with a height which is reduced toward a tip such that portions joining the upper face and the side faces respectively are rounded and extend along the length of the side faces; and

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(concluded)
~~, and a distal end portion comprising both ends of an upper side of the rectangle, which~~
~~are rounded and have~~ a non-curvilinear portion provided ~~in-between~~ between the rounded
portions, such that the toner sheet or the image receiving sheet applies a pressure to ~~an~~ the upper
face of the removing claw including the rounded ~~ends of the upper side~~ portions upon removal.
